THRILLING TRUE STORY OF THE BASEBAL

A Fawcett Publication

GIANTS

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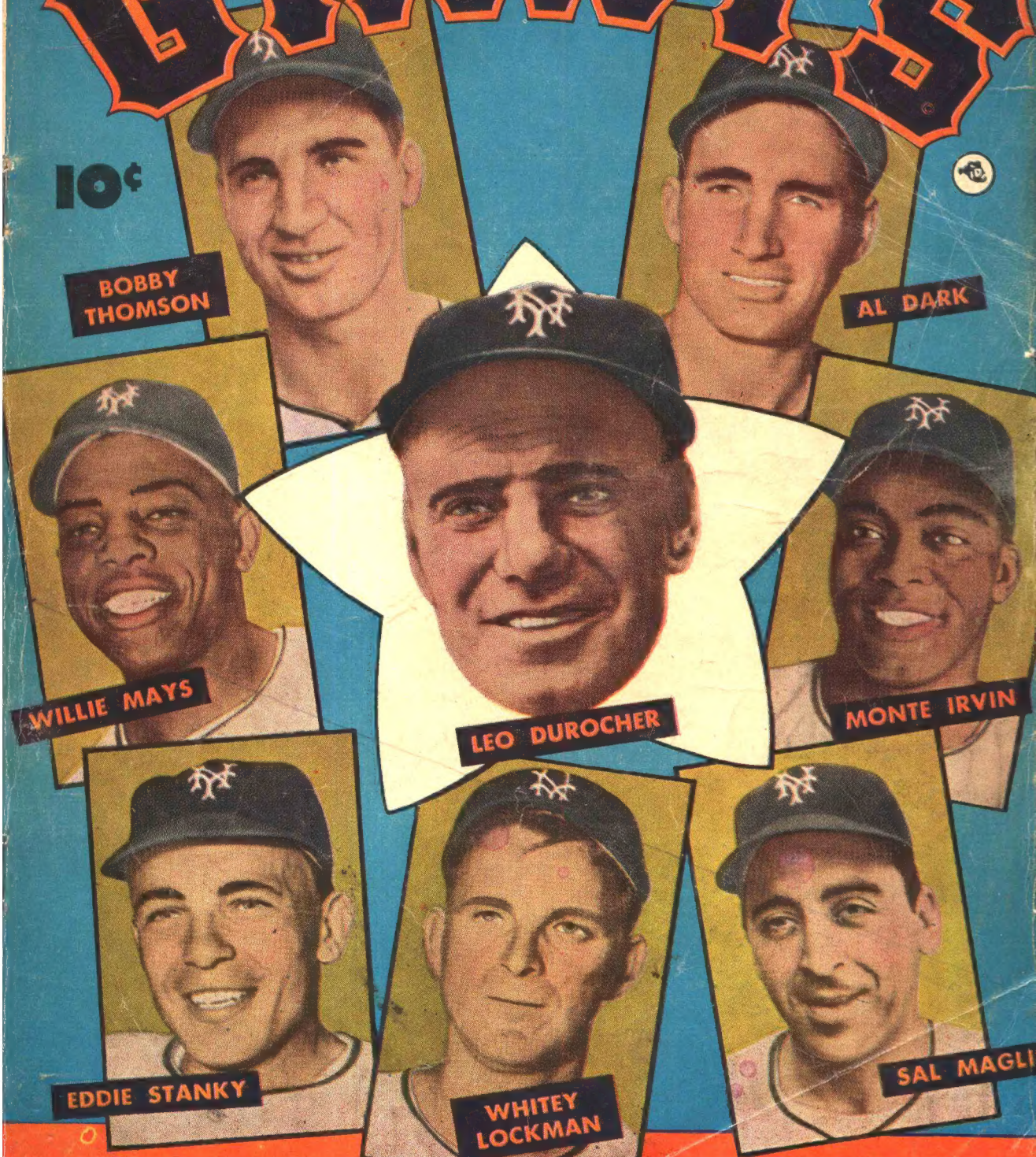
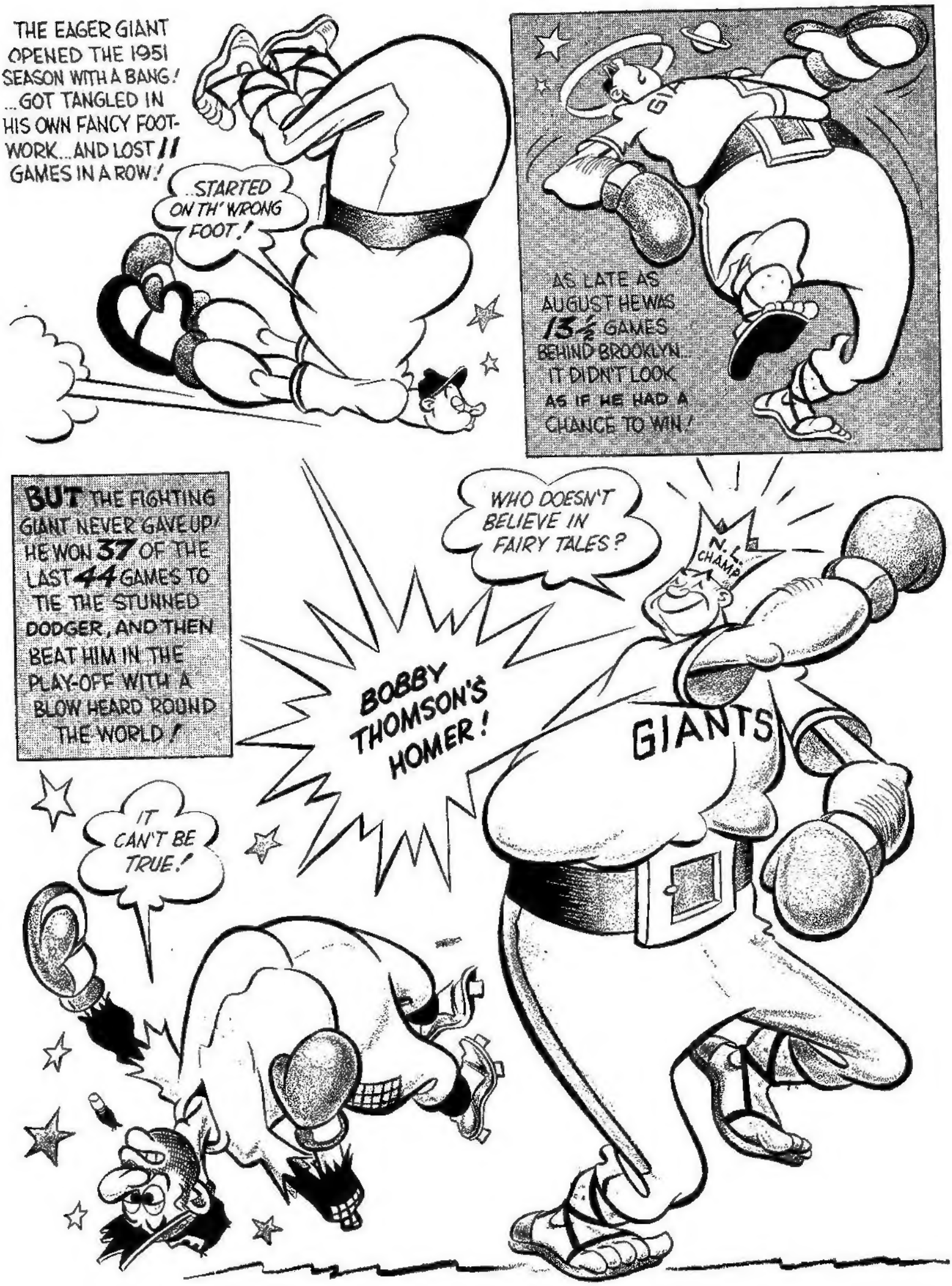


1951 GIANTS—
TEAM OF DESTINY

FAMOUS GIANT HEROES
OF THE PAST


THE EAGER GIANT OPENED THE 1951 SEASON WITH A BANG! ...GOT TANGLED IN HIS OWN FANCY FOOT-WORK...AND LOST 11 GAMES IN A ROW!
..STARTED ON TH' WRONG FOOT!
AS LATE AS AUGUST HE WAS 13½ GAMES BEHIND BROOKLYN... IT DIDN'T LOOK AS IF HE HAD A CHANCE TO WIN!
BUT THE FIGHTING GIANT NEVER GAVE UP! HE WON 37 OF THE LAST 44 GAMES TO TIE THE STUNNED DODGER, AND THEN BEAT HIM IN THE PLAY-OFF WITH A BLOW HEARD 'ROUND THE WORLD!
WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN FAIRY TALES?
N.L. CHAMP
BOBBY THOMSON'S HOMER!
GIANTS
IT CAN'T BE TRUE!

THRILLING TRUE STORY OF THE BASEBALL GIANTS • Executive Editor WILL LIEBERSON • Editor HARVEY B. JANES • Art Editor AL JETTER

THRILLING TRUE STORY OF THE BASEBALL GIANTS!

THE NEW YORK GIANTS OF 1951

LONG WILL THEY LIVE IN BASEBALL HISTORY! DEEP IN THE CELLAR IN MID-MAY, THIRTEEN GAMES BEHIND ON AUGUST 12, THEY PERFORMED THE DIAMOND MIRACLE OF ALL TIME...VICTORY IN THE NINTH INNING OF A THREE-GAME PLAYOFF! INSPIRED BY THEIR BRILLIANT LEADER, **LEO DUROCHER**, THEY PROVED THAT A TEAM WHICH **WON'T GIVE UP CAN'T BE BEATEN!**

HERE IS THE TRUE STORY, DAY BY DAY, OF HOW THEY THRILLED THE NATION WITH THEIR FEATS OF BASEBALL MAGIC!

WRITTEN BY • **CHARLES DEXTER**

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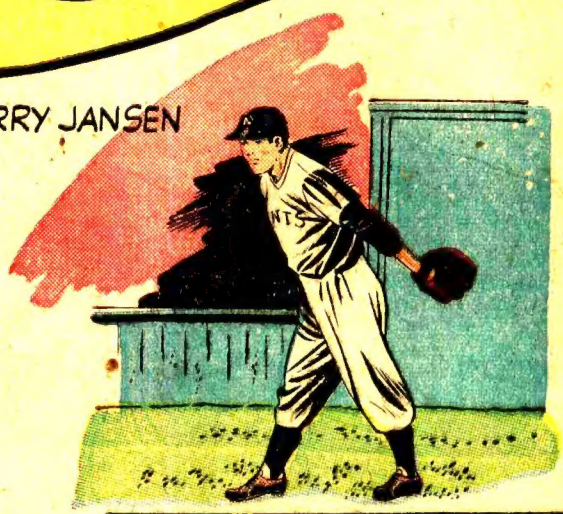
THESE ARE THE GIANTS of '51

SAL MAGLIE

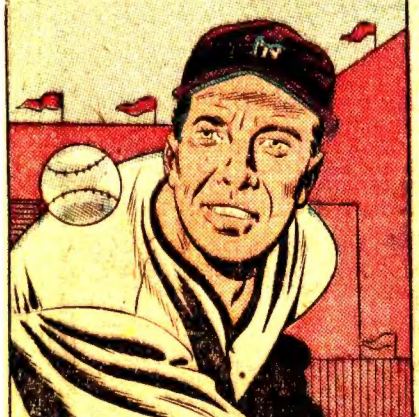
ACE RIGHTHANDER, WON TWENTY-THREE GAMES, LOST SIX! HIS TRICKY CURVE, PITCHING SAVVY AND FIGHTING SPIRIT ARE UNEQUALLED! SAL IS THIRTY-FOUR, LIVES IN NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

LARRY JANSEN



SOLID ROCK OF THE GIANT STAFF WON TWENTY-THREE GAMES, LOST ELEVEN, STRUCK OUT ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SIX! COOL CANNY LARRY RANKS SECOND IN VICTORIES IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS! HE HELD THE AMERICAN LEAGUE ALL-STARS TO ONE HIT IN FIVE INNINGS IN 1950. HE LIVES IN FOREST GROVE, OREGON.

JIM HEARN

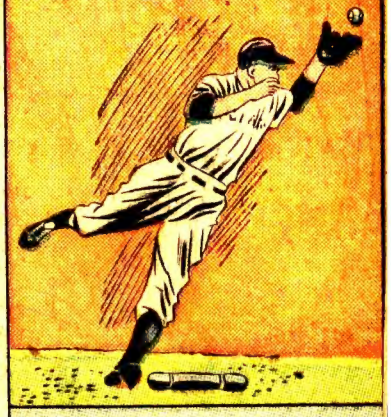


CANNONBALL RIGHTHANDER, WON SEVENTEEN GAMES, LOST NINE! JIM'S BLAZING FAST BALL PLACED HIM AT THE HEAD OF ALL NATIONAL LEAGUE PITCHERS IN 1950 WITH A 2.49 E.R.A.! HE IS TWENTY-NINE, LIVES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA!

WES WESTRUM

STEEL-ARMED CATCHER, CAUGHT ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR GIANT GAMES, BATTING .219! BURLY WES IS BASEBALL'S SUREST RECEIVER! IN 1950 HE MADE BUT ONE ERROR IN ONE HUNDRED FORTY GAMES FOR AN ALL TIME .999 FIELDING AVERAGE! IN 1951 HE HIT THREE JACKPOT HOME RUNS! HE'S TWENTY-NINE AND LIVES IN POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.

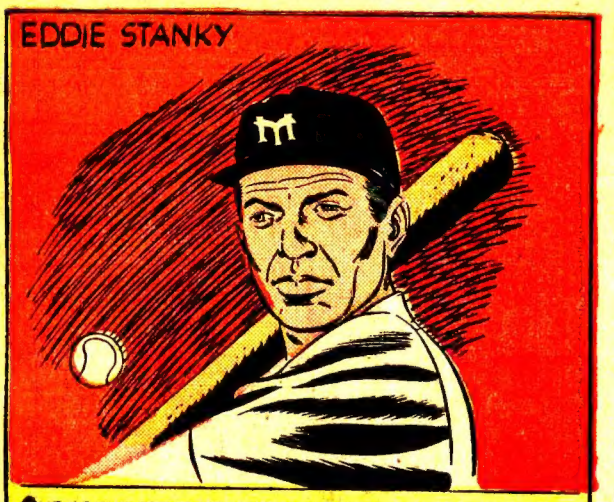
WHITEY LOCKMAN



AGILE FIRST BASEMAN, BATTED .284, HIT TWELVE HOME RUNS! WHITEY ROUNDED OUT A BRILLIANT GIANT INFIELD WHEN HE WAS TRANSFERRED FROM THE OUTER GARDEN TO FIRST BASE! AN ADROIT HIT-AND-RUN BATTER, HE WAS ONE OF THE LEAGUES GREATEST FLY-CATCHERS! HE'S TWENTY-FIVE AND LIVES IN CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA.

BASEBALL GIANTS

EDDIE STANKY



ONE OF THE GREAT SECOND BASEMEN OF ALL TIME AND THE GAME'S CLEVEREST LEAD-OFF BATTER, HIT .247! EDDIE LED THE LEAGUE WITH ONE HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT BASES ON BALLS IN 1945, WAS THE PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR IN 1950. TODAY, THE MANAGER OF THE ST. LOUIS CARDINALS, HE IS THIRTY-FOUR AND LIVES IN MOBILE, ALABAMA.

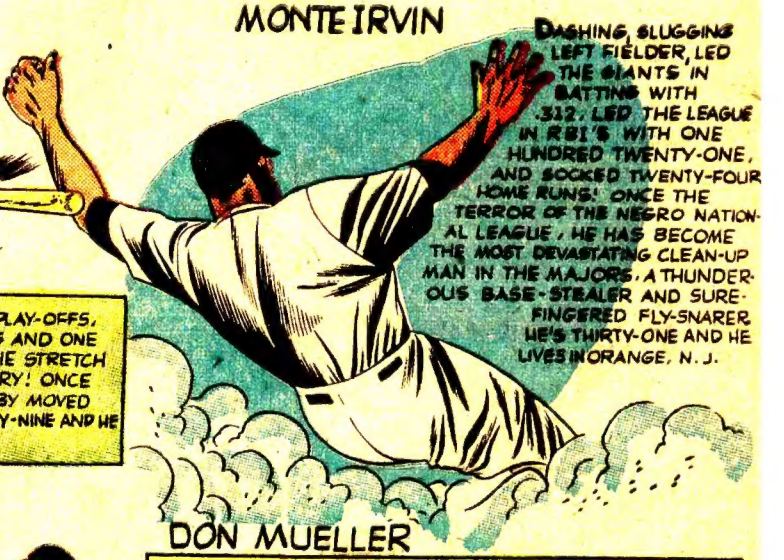
AL DARK

SURE-ARMED SHORTSTOP AND GIANT CAPTAIN, BATTED .303, HIT FOURTEEN HOME RUNS, LED THE LEAGUE IN DOUBLES WITH THIRTY-NINE! AL IS A BRILLIANT HIT-AND-RUN ARTIST, A CLUTCH HITTER AND NEVER-SAY-DIE TEAM LEADER. HE IS TWENTY-NINE, LIVES IN LAKE CHARLES, LOUISIANA.

BOBBY THOMSON

SPEEDY THIRD SACKER AND HERO OF THE PLAY-OFFS, BATTED .293, WITH THIRTY-TWO HOME RUNS AND ONE HUNDRED RBI'S! BOBBY'S .400 PACE IN THE STRETCH DRIVE SPARKED THE GIANTS TO FINAL VICTORY! ONCE THE TEAM'S BRILLIANT CENTERFIELDER, BOBBY MOVED TO THIRD BASE IN MID-SEASON! HE'S TWENTY-NINE AND HE LIVES ON STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.

MONTE IRVIN



DASHING, SLUGGING LEFT FIELDER, LED THE GIANTS IN BATTING WITH .312, LED THE LEAGUE IN RBI'S WITH ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE, AND SOCKED TWENTY-FOUR HOME RUNS! ONCE THE TERROR OF THE NEGRO NATIONAL LEAGUE, HE HAS BECOME THE MOST DEVASTATING CLEAN-UP MAN IN THE MAJORS. A THUNDEROUS BASE-STEALER AND SURE-FINGERED FLY-SNARER, HE'S THIRTY-ONE AND HE LIVES IN ORANGE, N.J.

WILLIE MAYS

SENSATIONAL ROOKIE CENTERFIELDER, BATTED .274 WITH TWENTY HOME RUNS! ROOKIE-OF-THE-YEAR IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE, WILLIE HIT .477 IN MINNEAPOLIS BEFORE JOINING THE GIANTS IN MAY TO STARTLE FANS WITH HIS LONG HITS, THRILLING CATCHES AND POWERFUL THROWS. HE'S TWENTY AND HE LIVES IN FAIRFIELD, ALABAMA.

DON MUELLER

SPLIT-SECOND RIGHT FIELDER, BATTED .277, AND CRASHED SIXTEEN HOME RUNS! IT WAS DON'S FIVE CIRCUIT CLOUTS IN TWO DAYS WHICH STARTED THE DODGERS ON THEIR WAY TO DEFEAT! AGE TWENTY-FIVE, HE LIVES IN ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

THE NEW YORK GIANTS, LONG ONE OF THE NATION'S FAVORITE TEAMS, WON THE PENNANT IN 1937 WITH A STAR-STUDDED LINE-UP WHICH INCLUDED MEL OTT, CARL HUBBELL AND HAL SCHUMACHER. TIME PASSED.. AND THE GIANTS SANK INTO THE SECOND DIVISION, FINISHING LAST IN 1943 AND 1946!

THEN IN JULY, 1948, MANAGER OTT RESIGNED AND THE BASEBALL WORLD WAS STUNNED WHEN LEO DUROCHER, THE BRAWLING SKIPPER OF THE BROOKLYN DODGERS, TOOK CHARGE OF THE FALTERING POLO GROUNDERS!

THE GIANTS FINISHED FIFTH IN 1949! THAT WINTER LEO ENGINEERED AN HISTORIC TRADE WITH THE BOSTON BRAVES! THE GREAT DOUBLE PLAY COMBINATION OF EDDIE STANKY AND ALVIN DARI REPORTED FOR SPRING TRAINING THAT MARCH!

THAT MAY, LEO VISITED THE JERSEY CITY BALL PARK...

ONE DAY LATER THE GREAT NEGRO SLUGGER REPORTED AT THE POLO GROUN

THAT JULY, LEO TOOK THE WRAPS OFF SAL MAGLIE!

IN THE MEANTIME, JIM HEARN'S PURCHASE ROUNDED OUT LEO'S PITCHING STAFF!

BASEBALL GIANTS

THE GIANTS, STILL IN THE SECOND DIVISION IN JUNE, 1950, STAGED A SENSATIONAL LATE-SEASON SPURT AND FINISHED THIRD, THEIR HIGHEST POSITION IN EIGHT YEARS! THEY REPORTED FOR SPRING TRAINING AT ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA, IN MAY 1951...

LEO CALLED A PRESS CONFERENCE!

WHO'LL PLAY THIRD?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT WHO'LL PLAY WHERE, BOYS! WE'VE GOT THE PITCHING, THE HITTING AND FIELDING TO WIN!

HOW ABOUT FIRST BASE, LEO?

THE GIANTS STARTED SLOWLY IN MARCH, BUT BY APRIL WERE HITTING ON ALL CYLINDERS! IN AN EXHIBITION GAME WITH THE CLEVELAND INDIANS ON APRIL 6, MONTE IRVIN BLASTED A GRAND SLAM HOMER IN THE SIXTH!

LONGEST HOMER I EVER SAW, MONTE!

NOW WE'RE REALLY ROLLING!

THE GIANTS LED CLEVELAND 6 TO 5!

THE INDIANS TIED IT IN THE NINTH, 8 TO 8, BUT BIG IRVIN WAS UP AGAIN AND...

CRACK!

MONTE'S SECOND HOMER OF THE DAY WON THE GAME 9 TO 8!

AS THE TRAINING SEASON ENDED...

THE HIGH-STEPPING GIANTS HAVE SET THE SOUTH AFIRE THIS SPRING, BOPPING FIFTEEN HOMERS, TWENTY-TWO DOUBLES IN THEIR LAST EIGHT GAMES! WHAT A TEAM!

AND AS THE TEAM ARRIVED AT NEW YORK'S PENN STATION IN MID-APRIL...

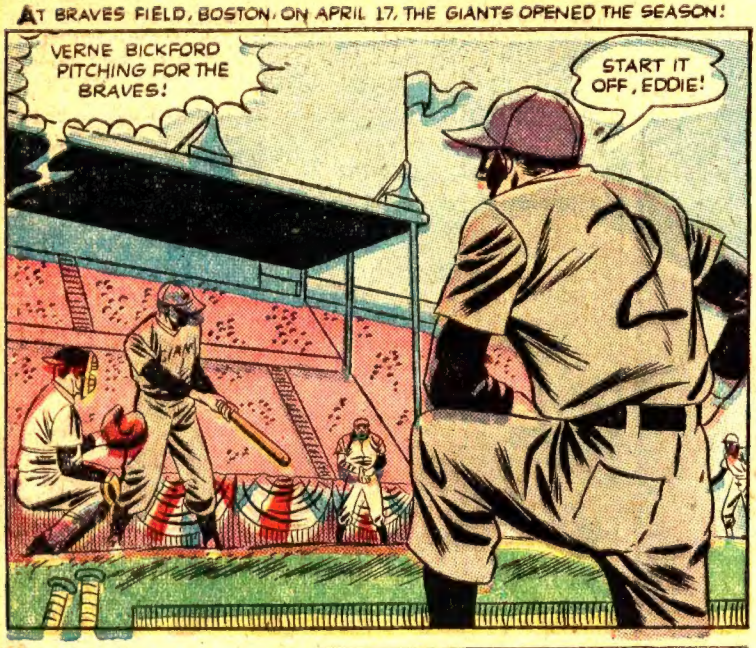
'RAY, GIANTS!

YOU CAN'T MISS THIS TIME LEO!

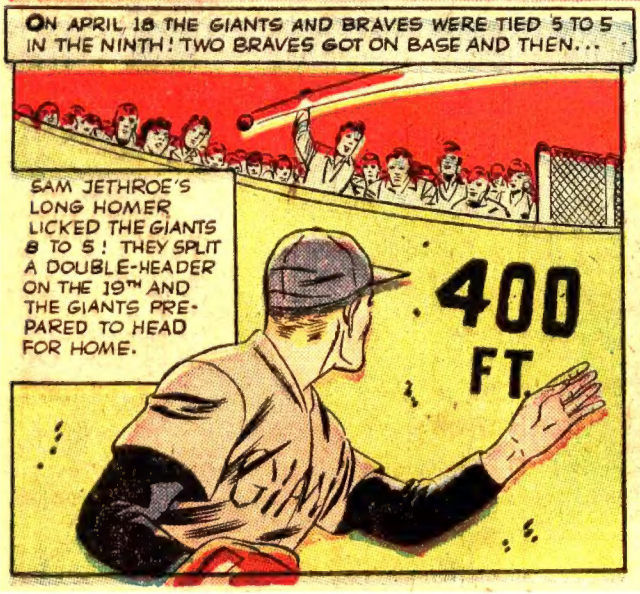
THIS IS THE YEAR, BOYS!

BASEBALL GIANTS

AT BRAVES FIELD, BOSTON, ON APRIL 17, THE GIANTS OPENED THE SEASON!

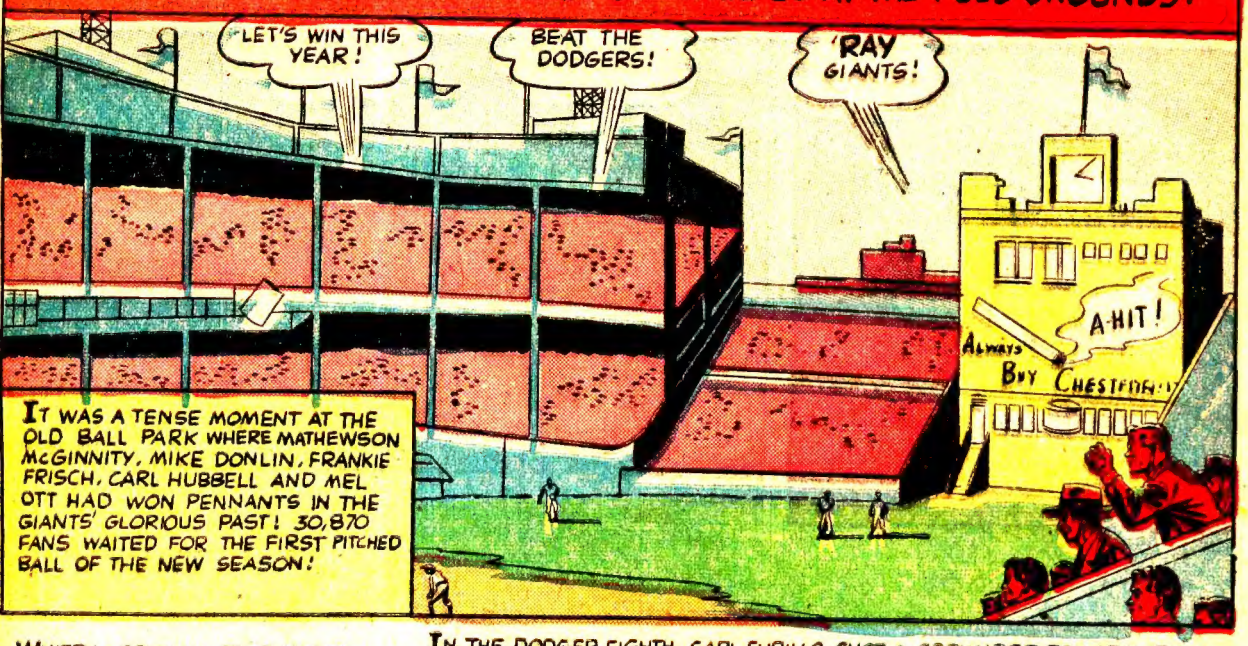


AND STANKY, THE BATTLING BRAT, STARTED THE SEASON IN HIS USUAL WAY...



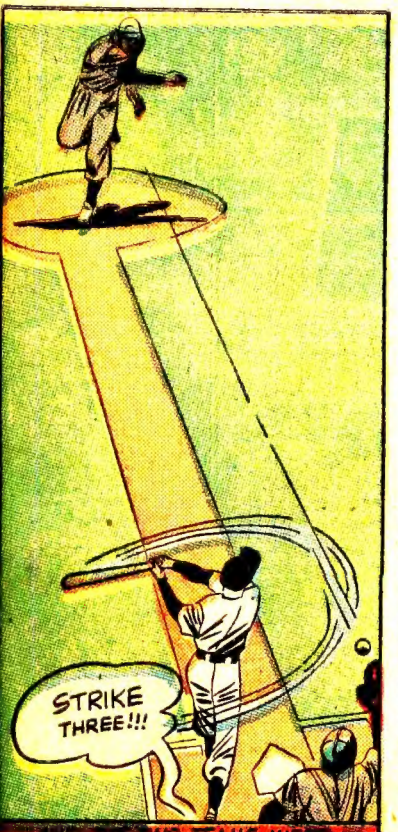
THAT NIGHT ON THE TRAIN TO NEW YORK...

THE GIANTS 1951 HOME STAND BEGAN ON APRIL 20 AT THE POLO GROUNDS!



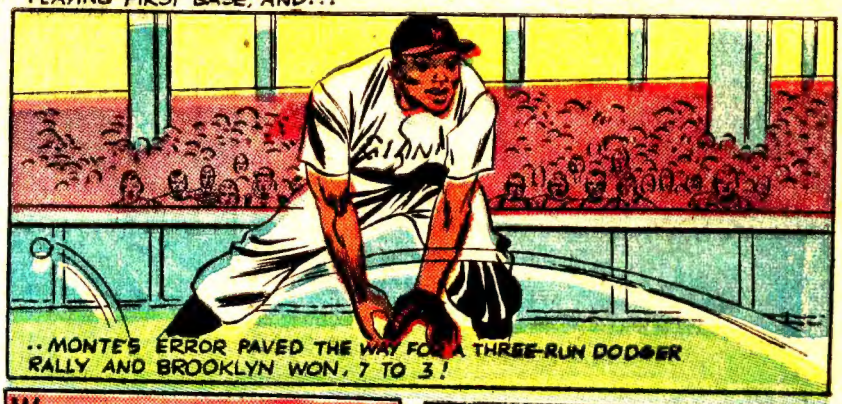
IT WAS A TENSE MOMENT AT THE OLD BALL PARK WHERE MATHEWSON MCGINNITY, MIKE DONLIN, FRANKIE FRISCH, CARL HUBBELL AND MEL OTT HAD WON PENNANTS IN THE GIANTS' GLORIOUS PAST! 30,870 FANS WAITED FOR THE FIRST PITCHED BALL OF THE NEW SEASON!

WHITEY LOCKMAN SCORED THE FIRST GIANT RUN IN THE OPENING INNING, BUT BIG DON NEWCOMBE WHIZZED FAST BALLS TO THE PLATE...



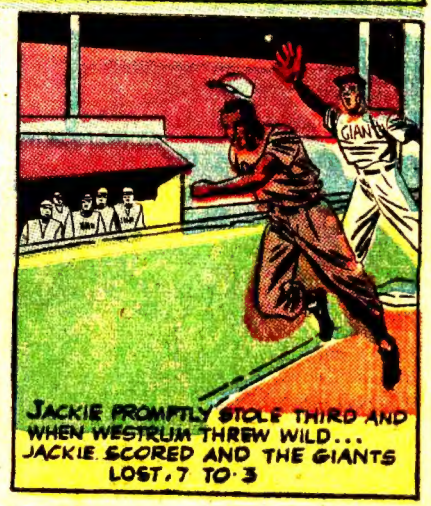
...AND THE TWO TEAMS WERE TIED 3 TO 3, GOING INTO THE EIGHTH!

IN THE DODGER EIGHTH, CARL FURILLO SHOT A GROUNDER TOWARD IRVIN, PLAYING FIRST BASE, AND...



..MONTE'S ERROR PAVED THE WAY FOR A THREE-RUN DODGER RALLY AND BROOKLYN WON, 7 TO 3!

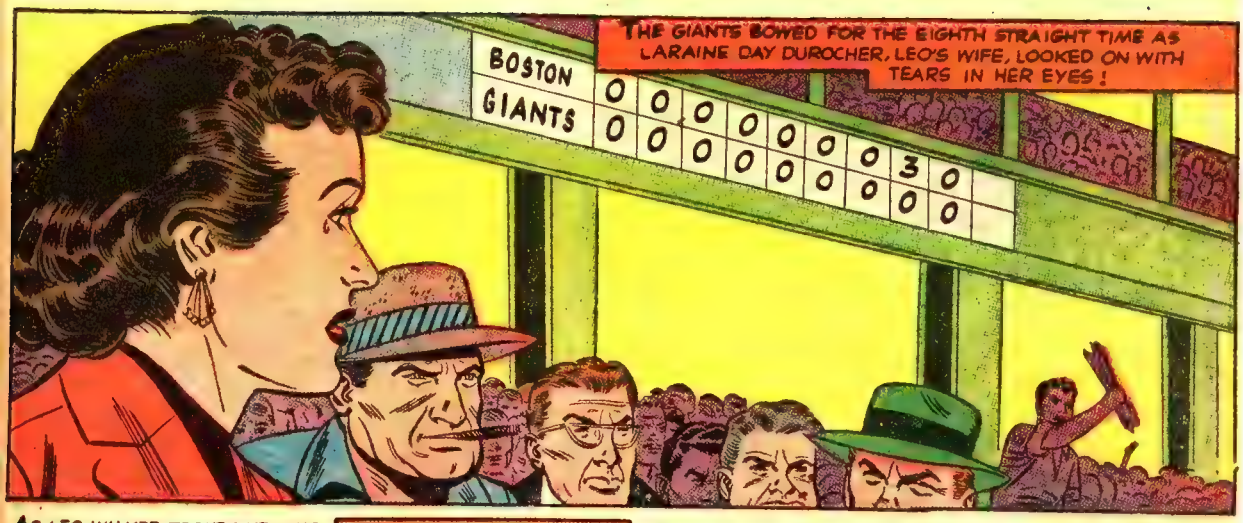
WITH THE GIANTS SINKING INTO SECOND DIVISION, LEO SENT LARRY JANSEN AGAINST THE DODGERS ON APRIL 21! WITH THE SCORE AGAIN TIED, 3 TO 3, JACKIE ROBINSON DOUBLED WITH DUKE SNIDER ON SECOND!



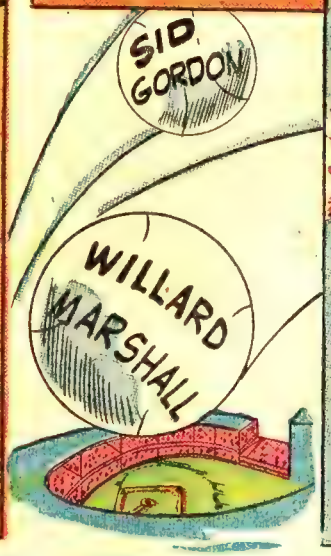
JACKIE PROMPTLY STOLE THIRD AND WHEN WESTRUM THREW WILD... JACKIE SCORED AND THE GIANTS LOST, 7 TO 3

THE FOLLOWING MORNING LEO CALLED THE TEAM TOGETHER FOR A PEP TALK! HE WARNED THEM THAT THEY WERE WASTING VALUABLE TIME AND VALUABLE GAMES WITH THEIR JITTERY PLAY ON THE FIELD! THERE HAD TO BE A CHANGE!

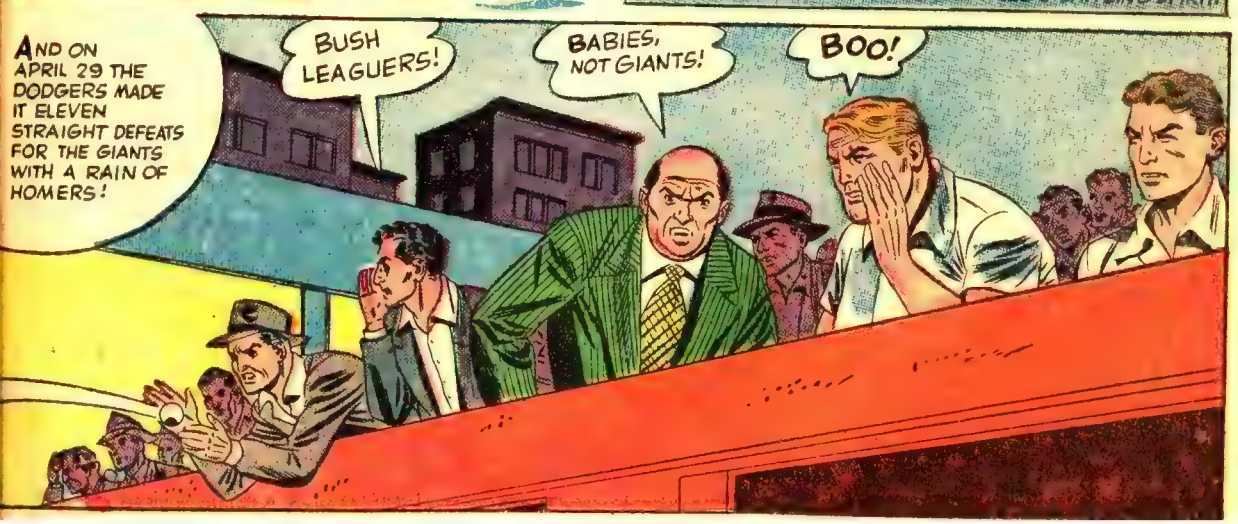
LEO SENT SAL MAGLIE TO THE BOX THE NEXT DAY TO STEM THE TIDE, BUT IN THE SECOND...
GIL HODGES CONNECTED FOR A HOMER!
BUT IN THE GIANT SIXTH...
BOBBY THOMSON SOCKED THE ONE-HUNDRETH HOMER OF HIS CAREER DEEP INTO THE LEFT FIELD STANDS TO MAKE THE SCORE NEW YORK 3, BROOKLYN 1!
THE DODGERS PICKED UP A RUN IN THE EIGHTH, THEN IN THE NINTH, WITH TWO OUT AND TWO DODGERS ON BASE...
PEE WEE REESE SINGLED OFF MAGLIE TO TIE THE SCORE
AND... IN THE DODGERS' TENTH...
CARL FURILLO SLAMMED A MAGLIE CURVE OFF THE SCORE BOARD AS THE DODGERS WON 4 TO 3 TO SWEEP THE SERIES!
AND THE PANIC WAS ON!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE TEAM, LEO?
GONNA MAKE SOME TRADES, LEO?
I STILL SAY THIS IS MY KIND OF TEAM, BOYS! WE'VE GOT THE PITCHING, FIELDING AND HITTING, AND THE GANG'LL COME THROUGH WHEN GAMES COUNT!
DAILY NEWS PHILS TOP GIANTS 8 TO 4 SEVENTH STRAIGHT... GIANTS BEATEN AGAIN
BUT THE ROUT CONTINUED...
THAT'S HITTING 'EM, COOP!
I WONDER WHAT LEO'S THINKING, NOW?
IN A GAME WITH THE BRAVES, CATCHER WALKER COOPER WHOM LEO HAD TRADED AWAY, BLASTED A HOMER!


THE GIANTS BOWED FOR THE EIGHTH STRAIGHT TIME AS LARAINE DAY DUROCHER, LEO'S WIFE, LOOKED ON WITH TEARS IN HER EYES!
BOSTON 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 0
GIANTS 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

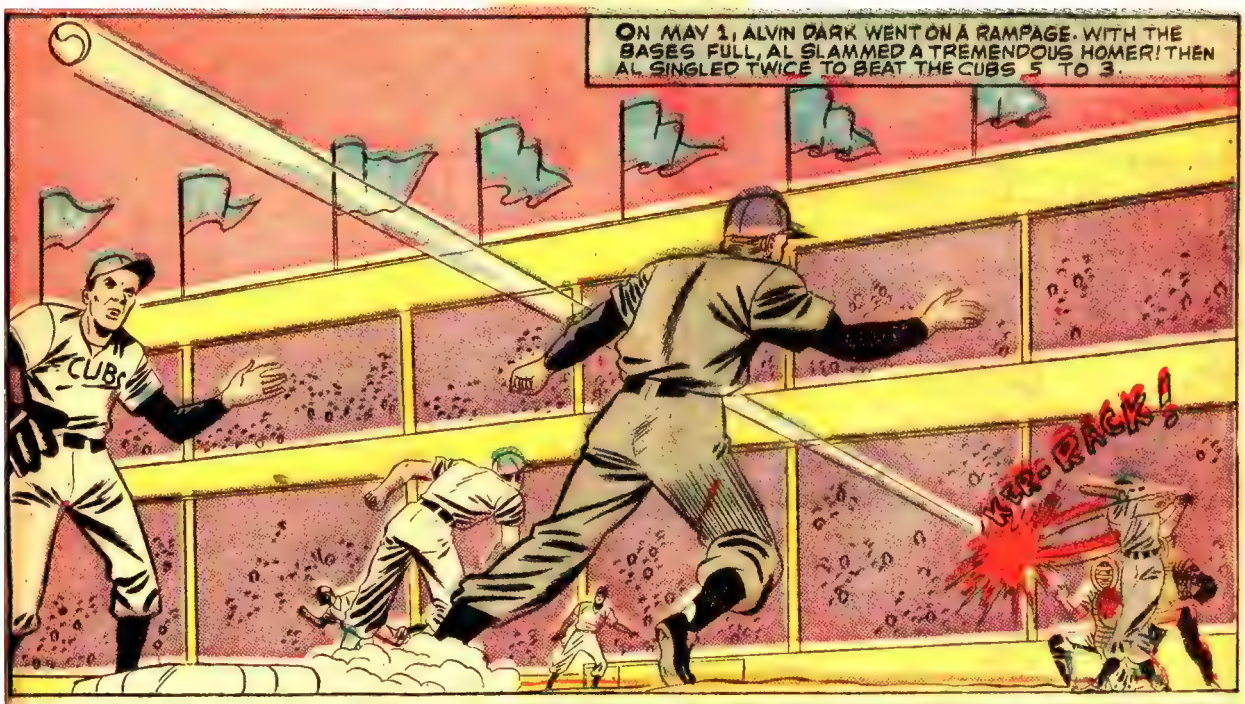
AS LEO WALKED TO THE CLUBHOUSE..
BOO! WHY DON'T YOU QUIT, LEO? GO HOME!

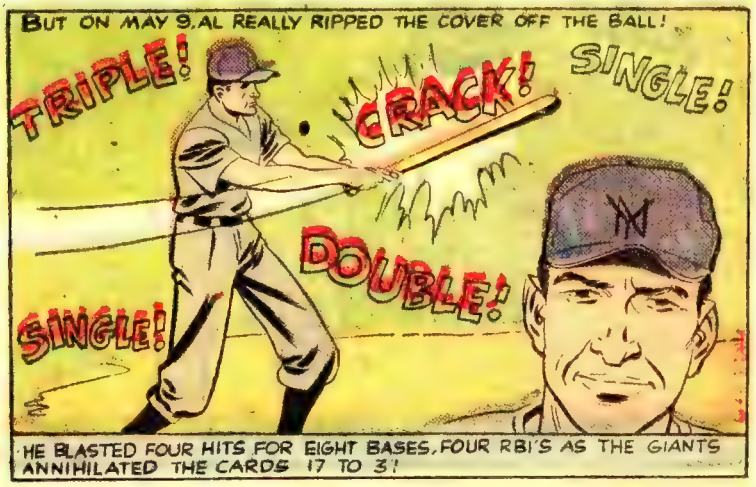

ON APRIL 27, IN A GAME WITH THE BRAVES, SID GORDON AND WILLARD MARSHALL, TWO EX-GIANTS, CRUSHED THE POLO-GROUNDERS WITH HOMERS!
SID GORDON
WILLARD MARSHALL

ON APRIL 28 THE GIANTS LOST THEIR TENTH STRAIGHT THIS TIME TO BROOKLYN, 8 TO 4, AS JACKIE ROBINSON BLASTED A HOMER, A DOUBLE AND A SINGLE!
POW!
IT SEEMED THAT NOTHING WOULD AVAIL... NEITHER JUGGLING THE LINE-UP NOR LEO'S BATTLING SPIRIT!


AND ON APRIL 29 THE DODGERS MADE IT ELEVEN STRAIGHT DEFEATS FOR THE GIANTS WITH A RAIN OF HOMERS!
BUSH LEAGUERS!
BABIES, NOT GIANTS!
BOO!

BEFORE THE DODGER GAME ON APRIL 30...
THIS TEAM WAS THE BEST IN THE LEAGUE IN SPRING TRAINING AND YOU'RE STILL THE BEST, NO MATTER HOW MANY YOU'VE LOST!
AND WE'RE GOING TO PROVE IT TODAY, LEO!
THE MIGHTY BRAT, STANKY, KEPT HIS PROMISE! HE SINGLED TWICE IN THE OPENING INNING, SCORING ONCE AND DRIVING IN A RUN AS HIS MATES COLLECTED FOUR HITS AND THREE WALKS FOR SIX RUNS!
SCORE BOARD
NEW YORK 6
BROOKLYN
BOBBY THOMSON BLASTED ONE IN THE SECOND!
CRACK!
IT WAS A HOMER WITH ONE ON! THE GIANTS WENT ON TO WIN 8 TO 5!
AFTER THE GAME...
WE SMASHED THE JINX!
NOW, LET'S WIN 'EM ALL!
WOW! I FEEL LIKE WE WON THE PENNANT!
THEY CAN'T BEAT THAT SPIRIT!
STANDING of Clubs
MAY 4
GAMES BEHIND
W L PCT
ST. LOUIS 8 4 .667
PITTS. 8 5 .615
BOSTON 11 7 .611
BROOKLYN 9 8 .563
PHILA. 8 8 .500
CHICAGO 6 9 .462
CIN'CI. 5 9 .367
NEW YORK 5 13 .278
6
IT'S STILL EARLY, BUT THEY'VE GOT A LONG, LONG WAY TO GO!





BACKED BY POWER HITTING AND FINE PITCHING, THE GIANTS WON ELEVEN OF FOURTEEN GAMES IN EARLY MAY AND REACHED SIXTH PLACE! BUT ON MAY 16, THEY LOST TO PITTSBURGH, 7 TO 3 AND DROPPED BACK INTO THE CELLAR! LEO DUROCHER REALIZED THAT SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE!

BASEBALL GIANTS

JUST BEFORE THE DAY'S GAME ...

LATER LEO TELEPHONED TO TOMMY HEATH, OWNER OF THE GIANTS' FARM TEAM AT MINNEAPOLIS!

ON MAY 24, THE AMAZING WILLIE MAYS, KING OF MINOR LEAGUE SLUGGERS, BECAME THE REGULAR GIANT CENTER FIELDER!

WILLIE MADE NO HITS THAT DAY, BUT HE SPARKLED IN THE FIELD AS THE GIANTS LICKED THE CUBS 8 TO 5!

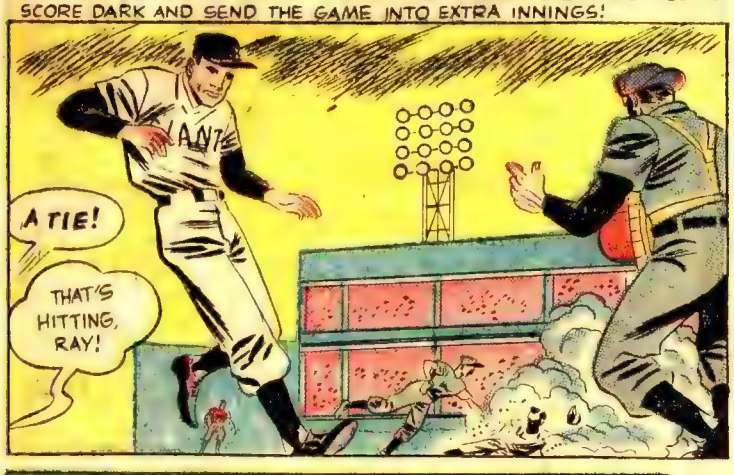
THE TWENTY YEAR-OLD WILLIE WENT HITLESS IN TWELVE TIMES AT BAT, BUT ON MAY 28 HE CONNECTED WITH ONE AND WILLIE'S FIRST MAJOR LEAGUE HIT WAS A HOME RUN!

STANDINGS of CLUBS

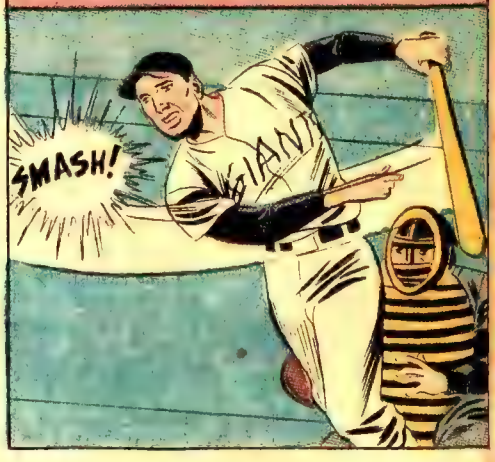
	W	L	PCT	GAMES BEHIND
BROOKLYN	24	15	.615	
ST. LOUIS	22	17	.564	
CHICAGO	19	17	.528	
BOSTON	21	19	.525	
NEW YORK	21	21	.500	$4\frac{1}{2}$

MEANTIME, OTHER GIANTS WERE DOING THEIR SHARE. ON JUNE 1 SAL MAGLIE HELD THE PIRATES TO FIVE HITS, WINNING, 8 TO 2!
PLENTY OF TIME, SAL!
IT WAS HIS EIGHTH STRAIGHT VICTORY!
WILLIE MAYS MADE A MIRACLE CATCH OF RALPH KINER'S BID FOR A HOMER IN THE POLO GROUNDS CENTERFIELD BLEACHERS ON JUNE 2...
HE'S DOING IT WITH MIRRORS!
500 FT.
...AND JIM HEARN BEAT THE PIRATES 14 TO 3!
THE GIANTS GOT BUT FOUR HITS OFF MAX LANIER ON JUNE 3, TWO BY WILLIE MAYS AND TWO BY EDDIE STANKY...
SPLAT!
BUT THEY WERE ENOUGH TO BEAT THE CARDS FOR DAVE KOSLO PITCHED A TWO-HITTER!
BEAUTIFUL GAME, DAVE!
DON MUELLER PLAYED GREAT BALL IN RIGHT FIELD AND...
TWO BAGGER!
DON BATTED .400 DURING JUNE'S NINE GAME WESTERN TRIP!
MONTE IRVIN SUDDENLY CAME TO LIFE AT BAT!
KER-RACK!
MONTE'S HOMERS WON TWO EXTRA-INNING GAMES FROM THE CARDS AND THE PIRATES IN MID-JUNE AND THE BIG SLUGGER ALSO WON TWO OTHER GAMES WITH TIMELY HITS!

THE GIANTS FINALLY BEGAN TO SHOW THEIR TRUE METTLE IN TIGHT GAMES! ON JULY 3 THE PHILS LED 5 TO 4 IN THE NINTH, WHEN DARK SINGLED AND REACHED SECOND ON AN INFIELD OUT. RAY NOBLE THEN DOUBLED TO SCORE DARK AND SEND THE GAME INTO EXTRA INNINGS!



THE PHILS MADE IT 6 TO 5 IN THEIR FAVOR IN THE TENTH, BUT BILL RIGNEY SCORED A HOMER TO KNOT THE COUNT AGAIN, 6 TO 6



AL PELLAGRINI'S HOMER GAVE THE WHIZ KIDS A 7 TO 6 LEAD IN THE TWELFTH! BUT THEN IRVIN SINGLED AND RIGNEY'S DOUBLE SENT MONTE HOME TO KNOT THE COUNT, 7 TO 7!

AGAIN THE PHILS EDGED AHEAD IN THE THIRTEENTH 8 TO 7! BUT WILLIE MAYS, FIRST UP FOR THE GIANTS, SOCKED A HOMER!

WESTRUM THEN WALKED, IRVIN SINGLED AND LOCKMAN DROVE A LINER TO RIGHT, SCORING WESTRUM'S RUNNER, CLINT HARTUNG! THE GIANTS WON, 9 TO 8!

DESPITE THEIR BRILLIANT PLAY THE GIANTS COULD NOT GAIN ON THE DODGERS!

STANDING OF CLUBS
JULY 13

	W	L	PCT	GAMES BEHIND
BROOKLYN	51	26	.662	
ST. LOUIS	41	35	.539	9½
NEW YORK	43	37	.538	

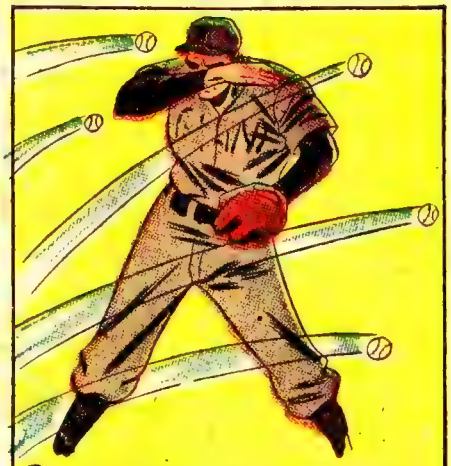
THE SEASON WAS HALF GONE AND THINGS STILL LOOKED PRETTY GRIM!

BASEBALL GIANTS

YET CALAMITY STRUCK THE GIANTS ON AUGUST 8! THAT AFTERNOON...

...THE MIGHTY DODGER SLUGGERS, DUKE SNIDER, CARL FURILLO, AND GIL HODGES CRASED HOMERS OFF JIM HEARN TO WIN 7 TO 2!

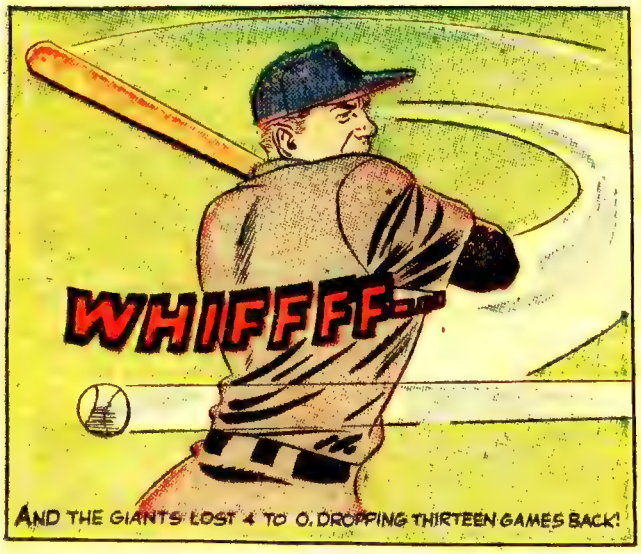
AND THAT NIGHT THE DODGERS ALSO SHELLED SAL MAGLIE, THE GIANT ACE!



BROOKLYN WENT ELEVEN AND ONE-HALF GAMES AHEAD WITH A 7 TO 6 TRIUMPH!

AGAIN THE DODGERS STRUCK ON AUGUST 9! ROY CAMPANELLA WALLOPED A HOMER OFF LARRY JANSEN AND THE GIANTS TRAILED BY TWELVE AND ONE-HALF GAMES!

THE GIANTS FACED ROBIN ROBERTS, PHILLY ACE, ON AUGUST 11...



AND THE GIANTS LOST 4 TO 0, DROPPING THIRTEEN GAMES BACK!

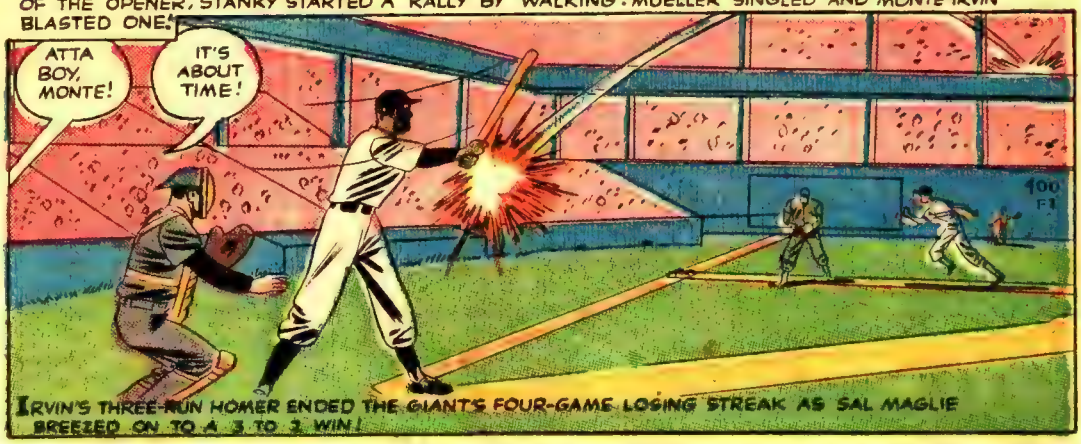
CLUB STANDINGS

	W.	L	PCT.	G.B
BROOKLYN	70	36	.666	
NEW YORK	59	51	.536	13

IT'LL BE A MIRACLE IF THEY WIN NOW!

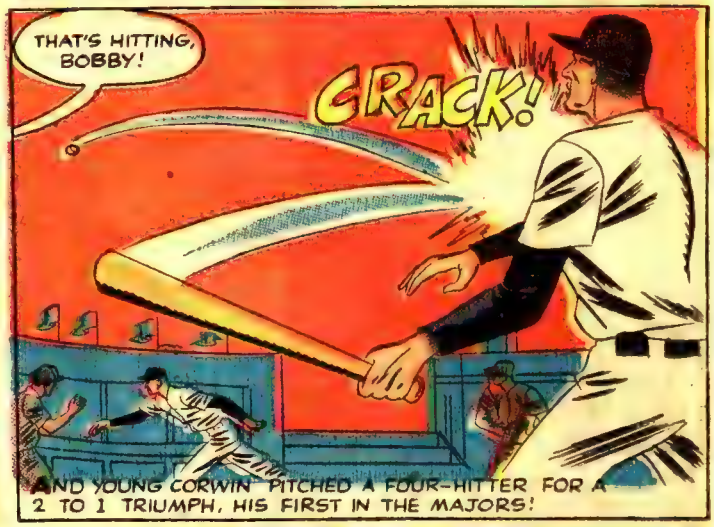
DESPERATELY TRYING TO STEM THE GIANT'S ROUT, MANAGER DUROCHER DECIDED TO BENCH DAVEY WILLIAMS, THE ROOKIE SECOND SACKER. ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, VETERAN EDDIE STANKY RETURNED TO HIS LEAD-OFF POST.

IT WAS A CLEVER MOVE, FOR WITH THE GIANTS TRAILING THE PHILLIES 2 TO 0 IN THE THIRD INNING OF THE OPENER, STANKY STARTED A RALLY BY WALKING. MUELLER SINGLED AND MONTE IRVIN BLASTED ONE!



LEO ENTRUSTED THE NIGHTCAP TO ROOKIE PITCHER AL CORWIN!

AGAIN THE GIANTS TRAILED THE PHILS! THE SCORE WAS 1 TO 0 IN THE SIXTH! THEN WITH TWO ON, BOBBY THOMSON DOUBLED IN TWO RUNS!

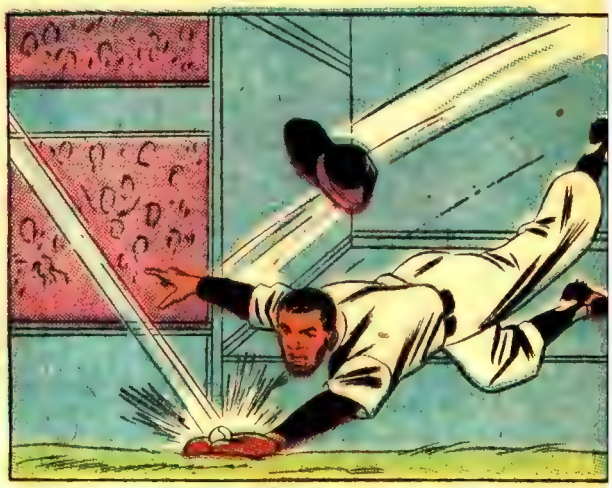


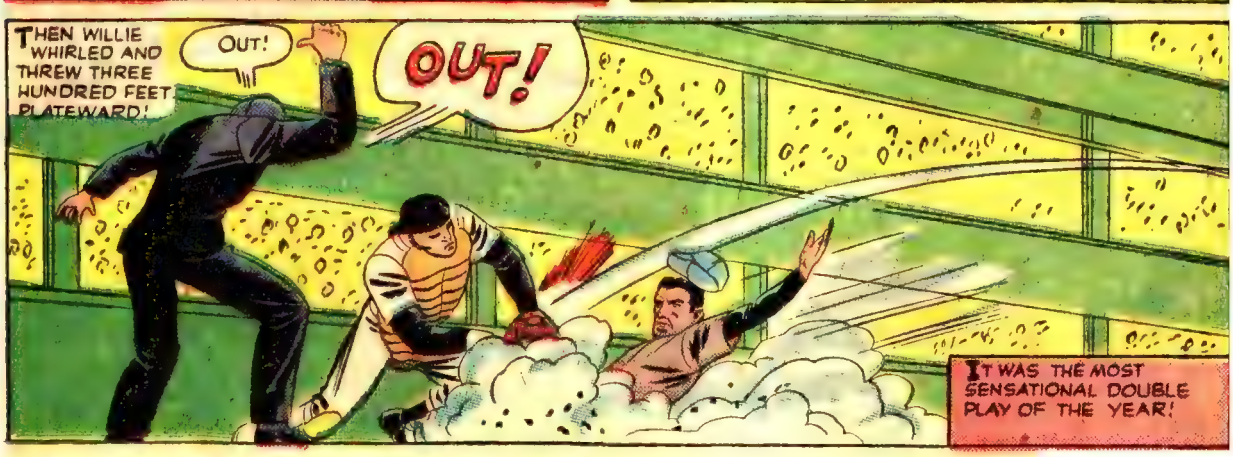
ON AUGUST 13, LARRY JANSEN TWIRLED A NEAT VICTORY, BUT--

THE DODGERS CAME TO THE POLO GROUNDS ON AUGUST 14, AND...

THE SCORE WAS TIED, 1 TO 1 IN THE EIGHTH ON AUGUST 15 AND BILLY COX WAS ON THIRD WHEN CARL FURILLO TOOK A TOE-HOLD AND...

BUT WILLIE MAYS RAN LIKE THE WIND TO HIS LEFT TO MAKE AN ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE CATCH!

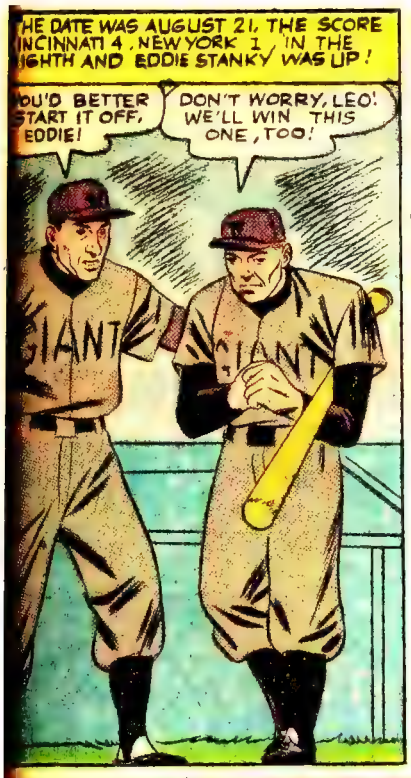




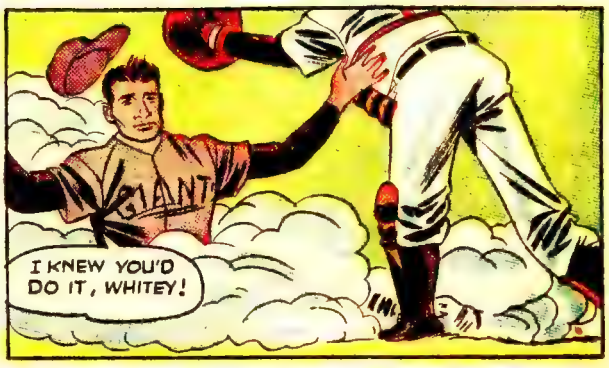
IN THE GIANTS' EIGHTH WILLIE MAYS SINGLED, AND WES WESTRUM HOMERED!

After THE GAME ON AUGUST 16....

JANSEN SHUT OUT THE PHILLIES, 2 TO 0, IN THE OPENER OF A THREE GAME SERIES. THEN THE GIANTS CAME FROM BEHIND TWICE TO TAKE 5 TO 4 AND 8 TO 5 VICTORIES! THEY STILL HAD A CHANCE!



NOTHING COULD STOP THEM! ON AUGUST 22, TRAILING THE REDS 3 TO 1 IN THE SEVENTH THEY TIED IT AGAIN! THEN DARK WALKED, LOCKMAN DOUBLED AL HOME AND MADE IT ELEVEN STRAIGHT IN A 4 TO 3 WIN!



ON AUGUST 24, THE GIANTS AGAIN TRAILED, 5 TO 4 IN THE NINTH! IRVIN, THOMSON AND LOCKMAN SINGLED, TYING THE SCORE! THEN WITH BOBBY ON THIRD, DAVE WILLIAMS ROLLED TO SHORT! BOBBY'S SMASHING SLIDE HOME FORCED CATCHER BOB SCHEFFING TO DROP THE BALL!

FINAL SCORE:
GIANTS 6
ST. LOUIS 5

TWELVE STRAIGHT!

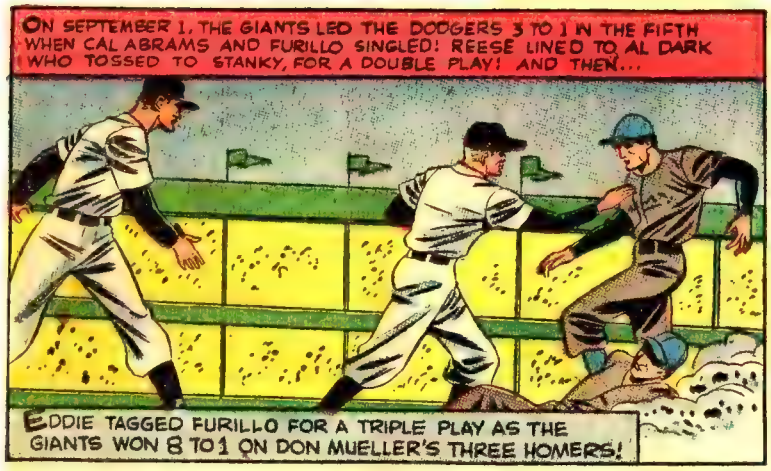
COULD THE GIANTS WIN NUMBER THIRTEEN? THEY DID, **AND AGAIN IN THE NINTH** AS WESTRUM HOMERED WITH THE SCORE TIED!

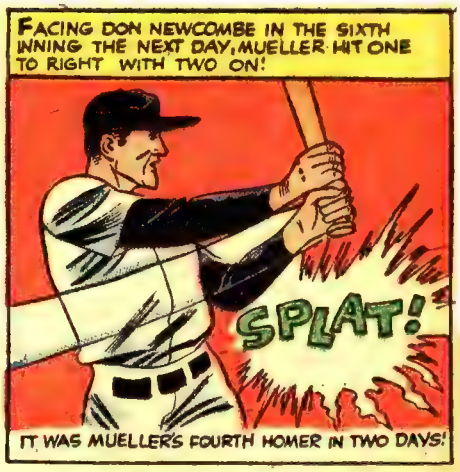
THE GIANTS ALSO MADE IT NUMBER FOURTEEN THAT DAY, SWEEPING A TWIN BILL WITH A 5 TO 1 NIGHTCAP VICTORY!

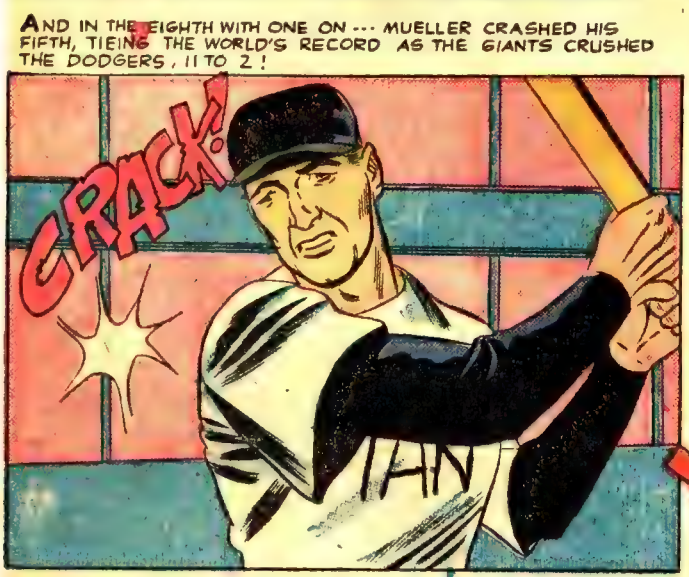
WHEN THE GIANTS CAME FROM BEHIND TO TAKE NUMBER FIFTEEN FROM THE CUBS IN THE TWELFTH INNING ON AUGUST 27 AND THEN TO GRAB THE SECOND GAME 6 TO 3 FOR SIXTEEN STRAIGHT THEY WERE THE NATION'S TOAST! BUT THEIR SENSATIONAL DRIVE ENDED ON AUGUST 28 WHEN THEY WERE BLANKED 2 TO 0 BY THE PIRATES!

STANDING of CLUBS

	W	L	PCT.	GAMES BEHIND
BROOKLYN	82	45	.646	↓
NEW YORK	76	53	.589	7







COULD THE GIANTS CATCH THE DODGERS? ON SEPTEMBER 21, THE CLUB STANDINGS WERE:

	W	L	PCT	GAMES BEHIND
BROOKLYN	92	52	.639	↓
NEW YORK	89	58	.605	4½

HEROES of the FINAL DRIVE
SEPTEMBER 22.
GIANTS
JANSENS SIX HITTER, HIS TWENTIETH VICTORY, BEAT THE BRAVES, 4 TO 1!
SEPTEMBER 23.
MAGLIE FANNED SEVEN, WINNING NUMBER 22, AGAIN LICKING THE BRAVES 4 TO 1!
SEPTEMBER 24.
WHAM!
STANKY'S HIT-AND-RUN BLOW BROKE UP A NINTH INNING TIE AND THE GIANTS WON, 4 TO 3 CUTTING THE DODGER LEAD TO TWO AND ONE HALF GAMES!
SEPTEMBER 25.
GIANTS
DARK'S HOMER AND TRIPLE PACED THE GIANTS TO A 5 TO 1 WIN OVER THE PHILLIES! AND THE DODGERS DROPPED A TWIN BILL! ONE GAME BEHIND!
SEPTEMBER 26
TRIPLE!
DOUBLE!
HOMER!
ERVIN WHACKED IN FOUR RUNS IN THE GIANTS' 10 TO 1 ROUT OF THE PHILLIES! THE DODGERS WON, TOO, BUT THEN DROPPED TWO GAMES IN SEPTEMBER 27 AND 28! IT WAS A TIE!
SEPTEMBER 30.
JANSEN PITCHED A FIVE-HITTER FOR A 3 TO 2 WIN OVER THE BRAVES, ENDING THE REGULAR SEASON IN A TIE WITH THE DODGERS!

AND SO AN UNDERDOG GIANT TEAM, A TEAM WHICH REFUSED TO QUIT, CHALLENGED THE MIGHTY DODGERS IN THE PLAYOFF SERIES OF 1951! THEY HAD WON THIRTY-SEVEN OF THEIR LAST FORTY-FOUR GAMES! COULD THEY TAKE TWO OUT OF THREE FROM THE BROOKLYNITES?

AS 30,707 WILD-EYED FANS CROWDED EBBETS FIELD FOR THE FIRST GAME!..

HOW ABOUT OUR GIANTS NOW, YOU DODGER FANS?

WE'LL MOIDER 'EM!

THE GIANTS ARE LUCKY STIFFS!

EBBETS FIELD

DODGERS

BIG JIM HEARN WARMED UP WITH COACH FRANKS BEFORE THE GAME.

YOU'RE FAST TODAY, JIM!

SLAP!

BUT RALPH BRANCA WAS AS FAST AS HEARN, MOWING DOWN THE GIANTS IN THE OPENING INNING.

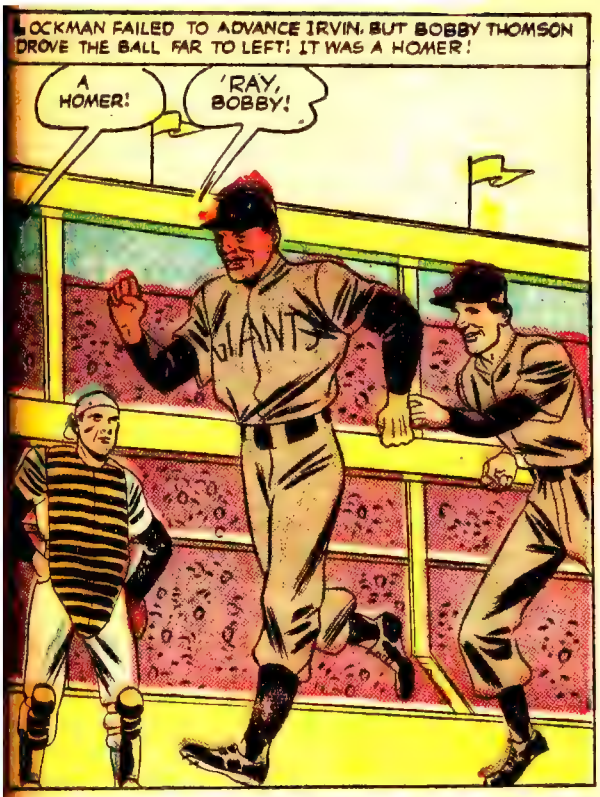
IN THE SECOND INNING ANDY PAFKO BLASTED A SOLO HOMER INTO THE LEFT FIELD SEATS!

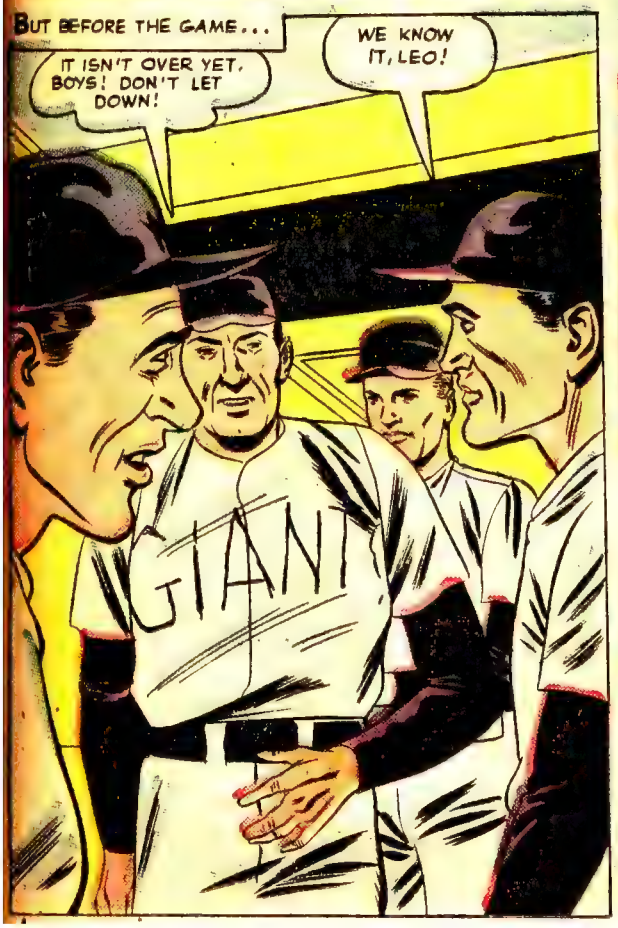
THAT'S HITTING, ANDY!.

I GOT IT!!

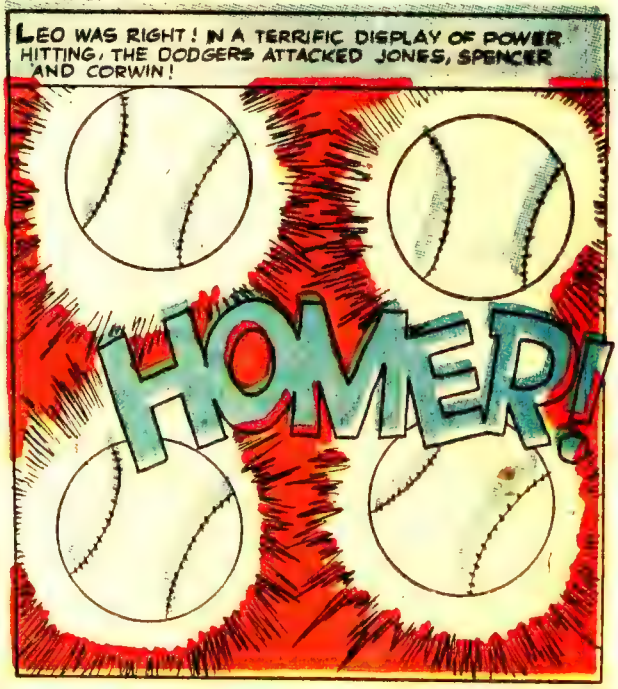
BUT IN THE GIANT FOURTH, MONTE IRVIN WAS NICKED BY A PITCHED BALL!

TAKE YOUR BASE!





GIANT HOPES WERE HIGH AS THE TEAMS MOVED TO THE POLO GROUNDS FOR THE SECOND GAME! SHELDON JONES WAS TO PITCH FOR THEM WHILE THE DODGERS WERE FORCED TO START CLEM LABINE! IT LOOKED LIKE A CINCH!

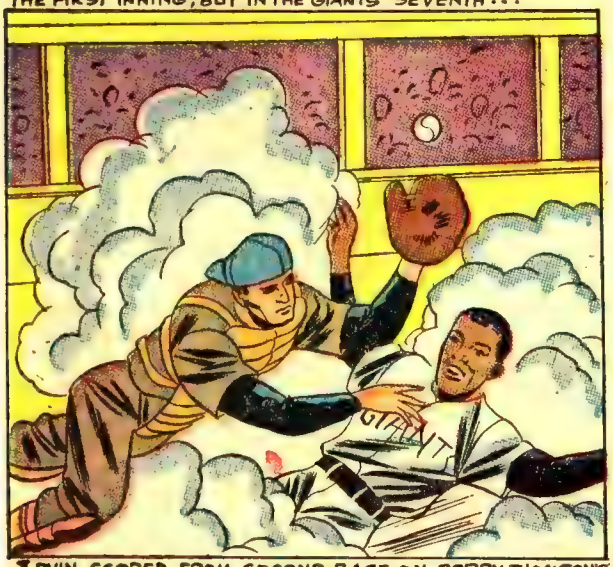


DODGERS 2 0 0 0 1 3 2 0 2 -- 10 1 3 2

GIANTS 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 -- 0 6 5

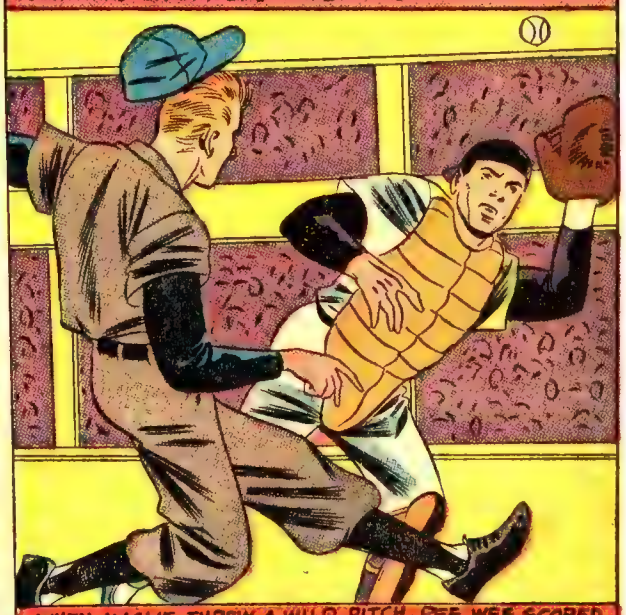
THE GAME WAS A ROUT AS LABINE EASILY BLANKED THE GIANTS!

WITH THE CHIPS DOWN, THE PENNANT AT STAKE, THE GAME OF THE CENTURY BEGAN! IT WAS SAL MAGLIE AGAINST BIG DON NEWCOMBE, WITH 34,320 BREATHLESS FANS WATCHING EVERY PITCH! THE DODGERS TALLIED ONCE IN THE FIRST INNING, BUT IN THE GIANTS' SEVENTH...



IRVIN SCORED FROM SECOND BASE ON BOBBY THOMSON'S SAFE DRIVE DOWN THE THIRD BASE FOUL LINE!

BUT IN THE DODGER EIGHTH, PEE WEE REESE SINGLED, TOOK THIRD ON SNIDER'S SAFETY AND...

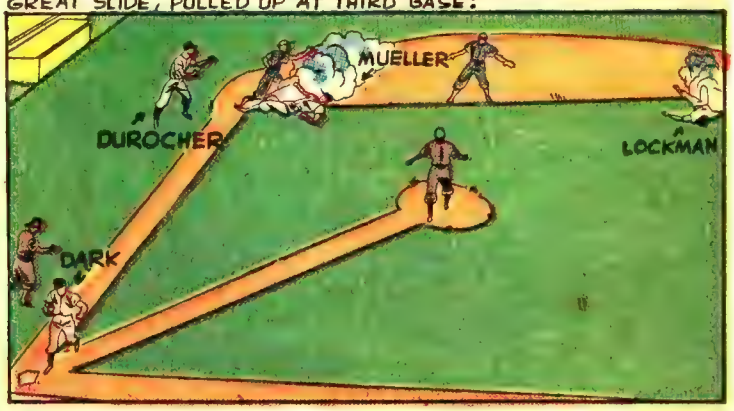


WHEN MAGLIE THREW A WILD PITCH, PEE WEE SCORED, BREAKING THE TIE!

THE DODGERS CONTINUED THEIR ATTACK AND LED 4 TO 1!

NEITHER TEAM SCORED IN THEIR NEXT TURNS AT BAT! THEN THE GIANTS CAME UP FOR THE NINTH INNING, THEIR LAST CHANCE OF THE SEASON...

DARK WHACKED NEWCOMBE FOR A SINGLE! MUELLER FOLLOWED WITH ANOTHER HIT! MONTE IRVIN POPPED OUT. RELIABLE WHITEY LOCKMAN DOUBLED, SCORING DARK! AND MUELLER, IN A GREAT SLIDE, PULLED UP AT THIRD BASE!



BUT MUELLER INJURED HIS LEG AND HAD TO BE REPLACED!

AND SO, WITH HARTUNG ON THIRD AND LOCKMAN ON SECOND, THE STAGE WAS SET FOR THE GIANTS' FINAL BID FOR THE PENNANT!

LE MUELLER WAS BEING REMOVED M THE FIELD, DODGER MANAGER CK DRESSEN MADE A HISTORIC SION. HE BROUGHT IN RALPH NCA TO PITCH TO BOBBY OMSON!
CAN STOP , RALPH!
I'LL DO MY BEST, CHUCK!
BRANCA STARED AT BOBBY, LIFTED HIS ARM AND THREW!
STRIKE ONE!
SLAP!
THOMSON GRITTED HIS TEETH, DUG HIS SPIKES DEEPER INTO THE TURF. A SINGLE COULD TIE THE SCORE!
ANCA THREW AGAIN AND...
'ER RACK!
IT WAS A HOMER, A STORY-BOOK HOMER!
WHEE!
THEYRE THE CHAMPS!
'RAY!
WOW!
THE GREATEST!!
THE BALL D TE HE CLE OF THE ANT NTE!
WE WANT SAL!
'RAY LEO
'RAY BOBBY!
THANKS, FANS!
THEY'RE THE GREATEST TEAM I EVER MANAGED!

GIANTS HEROES of THE PAST

LITTLE MUGGSY McGRAW PLAYED THIRD BASE FOR THE FAMED BALTIMORE ORIOLES WHEN HE WAS ONLY EIGHTEEN!

AS MANAGER OF THE GIANTS, McGRAW RULED WITH AN IRON HAND SIGNALLING PITCHERS WHAT TO THROW AND BATTERS WHEN TO HIT THE BALL.

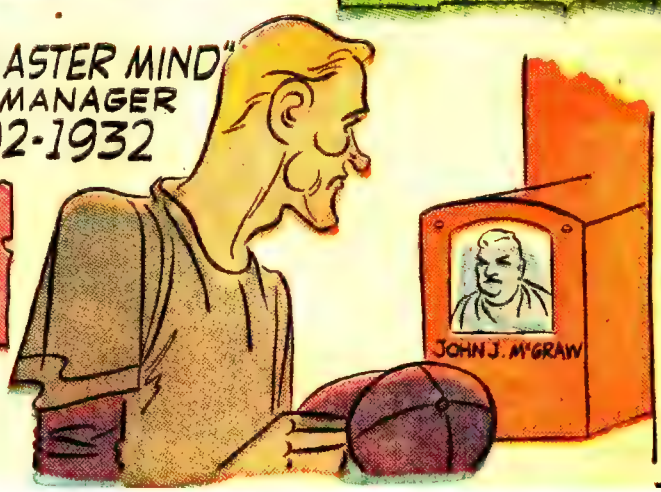
MAC FOULED OFF PITCHES SO MANY TIMES THAT FOULS, PREVIOUSLY WASTED PITCHES, WERE MADE STRIKES UNTIL THE BATTER HAD TWO STRIKES! HE ALSO PERFECTED THE SACRIFICE BUNT TO ADVANCE BASE RUNNERS!

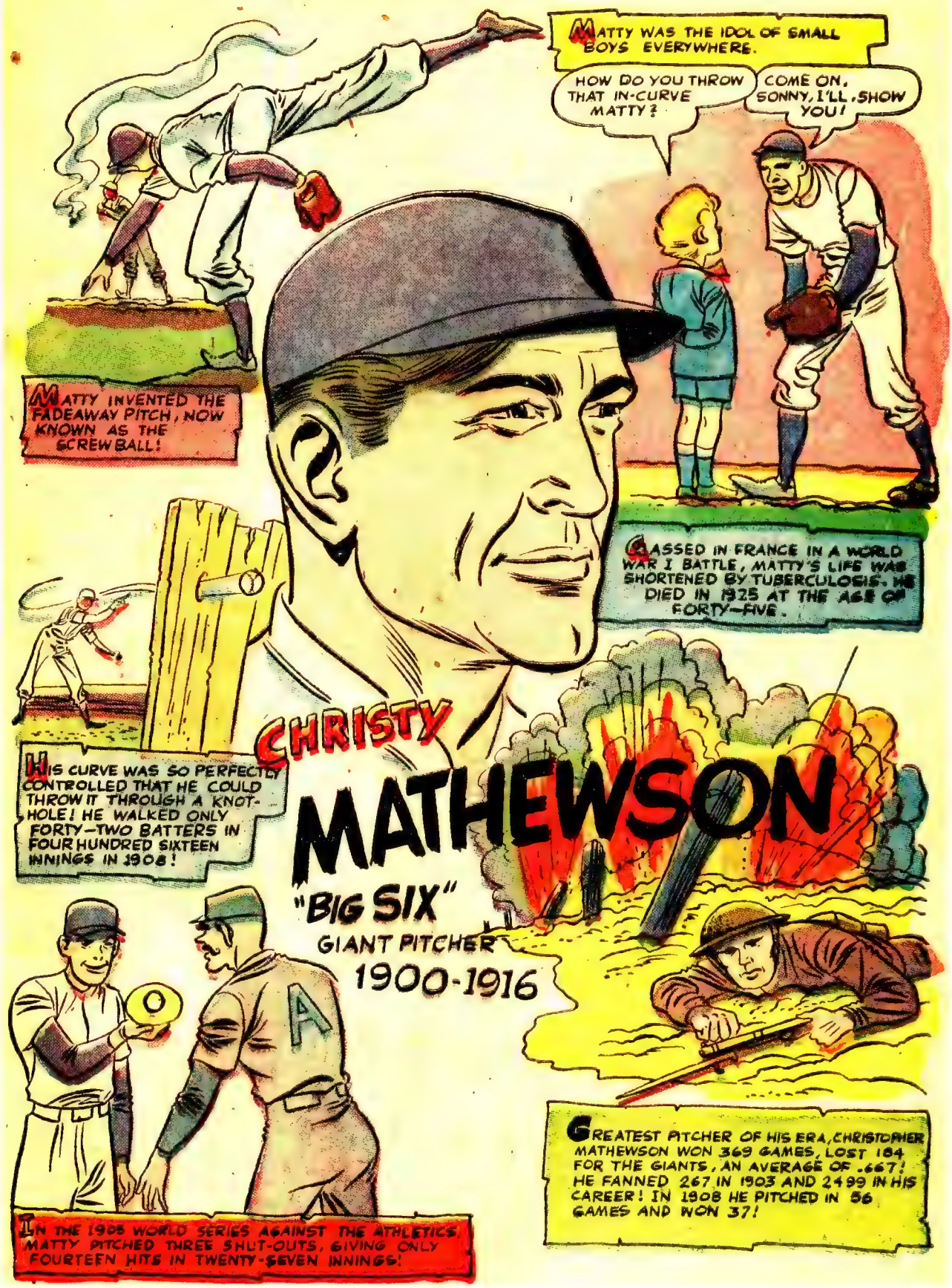
TODAY EIGHTEEN YEARS AFTER HIS DEATH, JOHN J. McGRAW'S MEMORY IS VENERATED BY PLAYERS AND FANS EVERYWHERE!

JOHN J. McGRAW

THE "MASTER MIND"
GIANT MANAGER
1902-1932

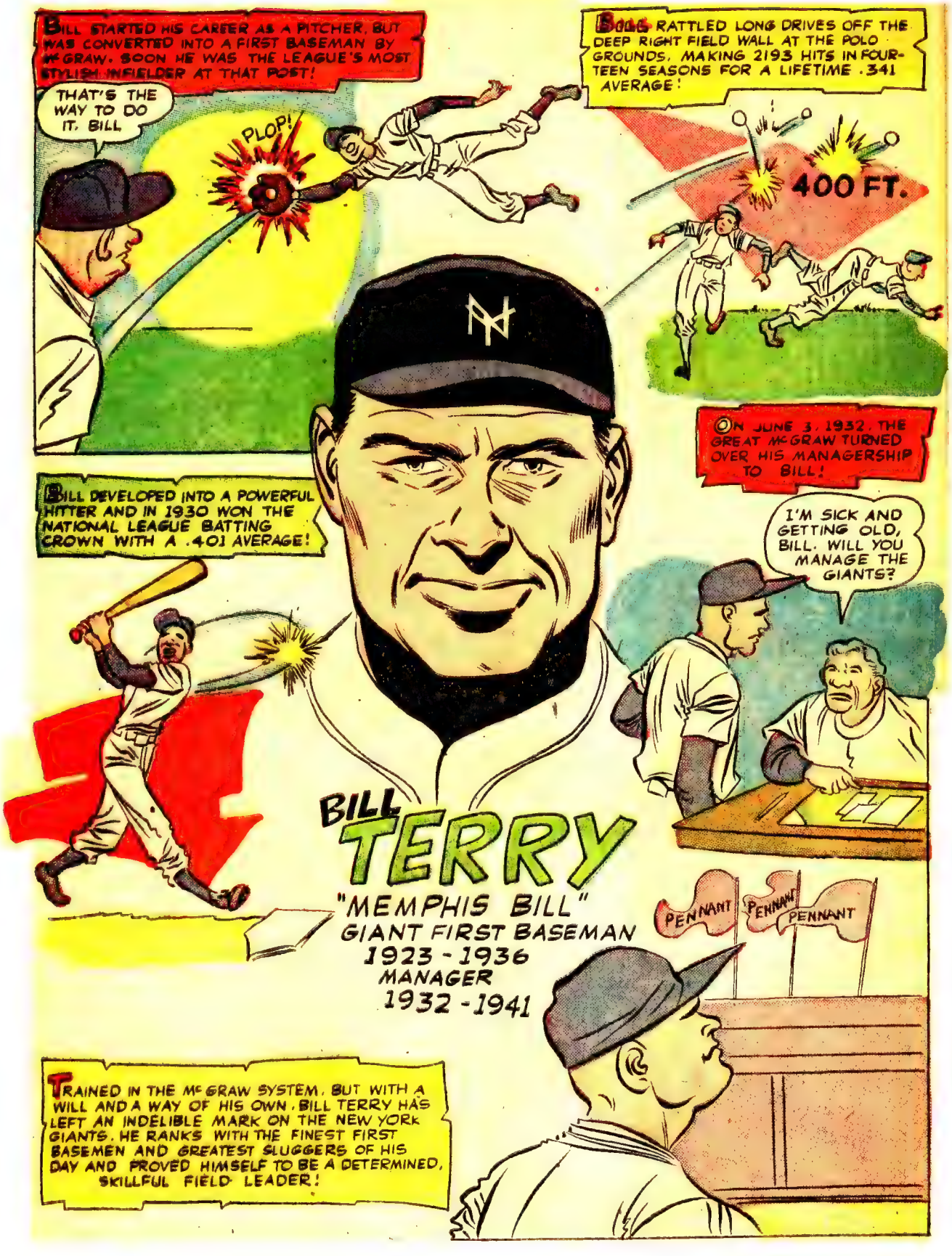
IN HIS PLAYING DAYS, MUGGSY McGRAW BATTED .334, ALTHOUGH HE STOOD FIVE FEET SEVEN INCHES TALL! HE WON TEN PENNANTS FOR THE GIANTS DURING HIS MANAGERIAL TENURE INCLUDING THREE WORLD'S TITLES!




MATTY WAS THE IDOL OF SMALL BOYS EVERYWHERE.
HOW DO YOU THROW THAT IN-CURVE MATTY?
COME ON, SONNY, I'LL SHOW YOU!
MATTY INVENTED THE FADEAWAY PITCH, NOW KNOWN AS THE SCREW BALL!
GASSED IN FRANCE IN A WORLD WAR I BATTLE, MATTY'S LIFE WAS SHORTENED BY TUBERCULOSIS. HE DIED IN 1925 AT THE AGE OF FORTY-FIVE.
HIS CURVE WAS SO PERFECTLY CONTROLLED THAT HE COULD THROW IT THROUGH A KNOT-HOLE! HE WALKED ONLY FORTY-TWO BATTERS IN FOUR HUNDRED SIXTEEN INNINGS IN 1908!
CHRISTY
MATHEWSON
"BIG SIX"
GIANT PITCHER
1900-1916
O
A
IN THE 1905 WORLD SERIES AGAINST THE ATHLETICS, MATTY PITCHED THREE SHUT-OUTS, GIVING ONLY FOURTEEN HITS IN TWENTY-SEVEN INNINGS!
GREATEST PITCHER OF HIS ERA, CHRISTOPHER MATHEWSON WON 369 GAMES, LOST 184 FOR THE GIANTS, AN AVERAGE OF .667! HE FANNED 267 IN 1903 AND 2499 IN HIS CAREER! IN 1908 HE PITCHED IN 56 GAMES AND WON 37!

LET'S KNOCK THE STUFFIN'S OUT OF BROOKLYN TODAY, JOE!
WATCH ME BLOW 'EM DOWN, MAC!
JOE STARTED HIS BIG LEAGUE CAREER ON THE 1899 ORIOLES WITH JOHN McGRAW!
A BURLY TWO-HUNDRED POUNDER, McGINNITY THREW A TANTALIZING ROUND-HOUSE CURVE.
I'LL PITCH THE SECOND GAME, TOO, MAC! I HAVEN'T GOT A SWEAT UP YET!
NEW YORK-7 CHICAGO-1
WISH THE SEASON LASTED THREE MONTHS LONGER!
1904 OCT 1
JOE McGINNITY "THE IRON MAN" GIANT PITCHER 1902-1908
JOE WON THIRTY-FIVE GAMES AND LOST ONLY EIGHT IN 1904!
JOE SPECIALIZED IN PITCHING AND WINNING DOUBLE HEADERS!
BUT MY ARM IS STILL AS YOUNG AS EVER!
OTHERS HAVE BEEN CALLED THE IRON MAN, BUT THERE HAS ONLY BEEN ONE JOE McGINNITY! IN 1903 HE FACED 1658 BATTERS, STILL A RECORD! JOE WON TWO HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN, LOST ONE HUNDRED FORTY-TWO MAJOR LEAGUE GAMES FOR A LIFETIME MARK OF .635! NO PITCHER IN BASEBALL HISTORY HAS EQUALLED HIS FEATS OF ENDURANCE!
AND JOE WAS STILL PITCHING IN THE MINORS AT THE AGE OF FIFTY-FOUR, AFTER THIRTY-TWO SEASONS IN ORGANIZED BALL!

ON JUNE 17, 1919, FRANKIE JUMPED IN ONE DAY FROM FORDHAM'S CAMPUS, WHERE HE HAD BEEN A GREAT COLLEGE STAR, TO McGRAW'S GIANTS!
MY NAME'S FRANK FRISCH, MR. McGRAW!
I KNOW YOU, MY BOY! GET IN UNIFORM AND PLAY SECOND BASE TODAY!
SWITCH-HITTING FRANKIE SELDOM STRUCK OUT! HE SPECIALIZED IN TWO-BASE HITS AND ENDED HIS CAREER WITH A .318 BATTING AVERAGE!
THE GREATEST DEFENSIVE KEY-STONE ARTIST OF HIS DAY, FRANKIE STARRED ON McGRAW'S GREAT FOUR-TIME CHAMPIONS OF THE EARLY 1920'S!
TRADED TO ST. LOUIS IN 1926, FRANKIE BECAME THE LEADER OF THE BRAWLING GAS-HOUSE GANG!
AND I SAY YOU NEED A PAIR OF NEW GLASSES, UMP!
AND YOU NEED A SHOWER BATH RIGHT NOW, FRISCH!
FEARLESS FRANKIE LED THE LEAGUE IN STOLEN BASES FOR EIGHT SEASONS!
FRANKIE FRISCH
"THE FORDHAM FLASH"
GIANT INFIELDER
1916-1926
FRANKIE FRISCH COVERED MORE GROUND, ACCEPTED MORE CHANCES AND WON MORE GAMES BY HIS HITTING, FIELDING, BASE RUNNING AND TREMENDOUS FIERY SPIRIT THAN ANY OTHER GIANT IN HISTORY! HE IS AN ALL-TIME ALL-STAR!


BILL STARTED HIS CAREER AS A PITCHER, BUT WAS CONVERTED INTO A FIRST BASEMAN BY McGRAW. SOON HE WAS THE LEAGUE'S MOST STYLISH INFIELDER AT THAT POST!
THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT, BILL
PLOP!
BILL RATTLED LONG DRIVES OFF THE DEEP RIGHT FIELD WALL AT THE POLO GROUNDS, MAKING 2193 HITS IN FOURTEEN SEASONS FOR A LIFETIME .341 AVERAGE!
400 FT.
ON JUNE 3, 1932, THE GREAT McGRAW TURNED OVER HIS MANAGERSHIP TO BILL!
BILL DEVELOPED INTO A POWERFUL HITTER AND IN 1930 WON THE NATIONAL LEAGUE BATTING CROWN WITH A .401 AVERAGE!
I'M SICK AND GETTING OLD, BILL. WILL YOU MANAGE THE GIANTS?
BILL TERRY
"MEMPHIS BILL"
GIANT FIRST BASEMAN
1923 - 1936
MANAGER
1932 - 1941
PENNANT
PENNANT
PENNANT
TRAINED IN THE McGRAW SYSTEM, BUT WITH A WILL AND A WAY OF HIS OWN, BILL TERRY HAS LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK ON THE NEW YORK GIANTS. HE RANKS WITH THE FINEST FIRST BASEMEN AND GREATEST SLUGGERS OF HIS DAY AND PROVED HIMSELF TO BE A DETERMINED, SKILLFUL FIELD LEADER!

CARL WAS THE FIRST SOUTHPAW TO THROW THE SCREWBALL PITCH, DOWN AND AWAY FROM RIGHT-HANDED BATTERS!
ON JULY 13, 1933 TO AUGUST 1 CARL PITCHED FORTY-SIX SCORELESS INNINGS, AN ALL-TIME LEAGUE RECORD! HIS EARNED RUN AVERAGE FOR THAT YEAR, 1.66, IS THE LOWEST IN MODERN NATIONAL LEAGUE TIMES!
IN 1933 CARL PITCHED A FABULOUS 1 TO 0 EIGHTEEN INNING GAME AGAINST THE CARDS!
PLEASE, HUB, GIVE US A RUN!
FROM JULY, 1936, TO JUNE, 1937, CARL WON TWENTY-FOUR STRAIGHT GAMES, A FEAT NEVER EQUALLED!
WINNING PITCHER
Hubbell
CARL HUBBELL
"THE MEAL TICKET"
GIANT PITCHER
1928-1943
IN THE 1933 ALL-STAR GAME, CARL FANNED BABE RUTH, LOU GEHRIG, AL SIMMONS, JIMMY FOXX AND JOE CRONIN, THE AMERICAN LEAGUE'S GREATEST SLUGGERS, IN SUCCESSION!
STRIKE THREE!
CARL HUBBELL PICKED UP THE SKEIN OF GIANT PITCHING SUPREMACY WHERE THE GREAT CHRISTY MATHEWSON HAD DROPPED IT! HE WON 253 GAMES, LOST 154 FOR A LIFETIME .622 MARK AND AN EARNED RUN AVERAGE OF 2.98! CANNIEST AND COOLEST OF PITCHERS, HE IS NOW THE GIANTS' FARM SYSTEM DIRECTOR!

LATE IN 1926 MEL OTT, SIXTEEN, REPORTED AT THE POLO GROUNDS!
WHAT DO YOU WANT, KID?
I'M MELVIN OTT, A BALL PLAYER, AND I WANT TO SEE MR. McGRAW!
HITTING FROM A PECULIAR STANCE, HIS LEFT FOOT OFF THE GROUND, MEL SOON WAS SMASHING HOMERS INTO THE RIGHT FIELD STANDS!
THERE'S MY NEW RIGHT FIELDER!
MEL HIT 511 CIRCUIT CLOUTS, A LEAGUE RECORD: HE ALSO HOLDS OTHER LEAGUE MARKS FOR RBI'S (1860), TOTAL BASES (5041) AND EXTRA BASES (2165)!
THAT'S THREE HOMERS TODAY, MEL!
MEL OTT
"MASTER MELVIN"
GIANT RIGHT FIELDER
1926-1947
MEL PLAYED TWENTY-TWO YEARS AT THE POLO GROUNDS, LONGEST TENURE OF SERVICE WITH THE SAME CLUB OF ANY MODERN BALL PLAYER!
I WAS YOUNGER THAN YOU, BOBBY, WHEN I FIRST SAW MEL OTT PLAY HERE!
HE'S MY FAVORITE PLAYER, TOO, DADDY!
TODAY MEL MANAGES THE OAKLAND TEAM IN THE PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE.
COME ON, BOYS! LET'S WIN THIS ONE!
FANS STILL CALL THE RIGHTFIELD STANDS AT THE POLO GROUNDS "OTTVILLE" AFTER THE MASTERFUL LITTLE SLUGGER WHO BATTED HIS WAY INTO THE HALL OF FAME. RIVALING SUCH TITANS AS RUTH, GEHRIG AND DIMAGGIO AS NEW YORK CITY'S FAVORITE BALL PLAYER!

GIANT ACES

KEEN KNOWLEDGE OF A BATTER'S HABITS AND SHARP CONTROL HELP MAKE MAGLIE AND JANSEN TWO OF THE MOST RESPECTED PITCHERS IN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE!

SAL MAGLIE 23-6

HE PICKED UP A GREAT DEAL OF HIS PITCHING SAVVY IN THE MEXICAN LEAGUE WHERE HE WAS TUTORED BY DOLPH LUQUE... IN THE LAST TWO YEARS SAL HAS COMPILED AN AMAZING RECORD OF 41 VICTORIES AND ONLY 10 DEFEATS WITH THE GIANTS!

LARRY JANSEN 23-11

BECAUSE LARRY IS A SMART PITCHER WITH A FINE CURVE, CHANGE-UP AND SLIDER, HIS FAST BALL IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED.... BUT JANSEN HAS A GOOD ONE. HE HAS AVERAGED 19 VICTORIES SINCE JOINING N.Y. IN 1947!

THE NEW YORK GIANTS

AMAZING 1951 NATIONAL LEAGUE PENNANT WINNERS

Top row from left to right: Wes Westrum, George Spencer, Ray Noble, Sal Yvars, Dave Koslo, Jack Lohrke, Dave Williams, Don Mueller, Al Corwin, Sheldon Jones.

Center row from left to right: Jim Hearn, Sal Maglie, Monte Irvin, Whitey Lockman, Larry Jansen, Clint Hartung, Monte Kennedy, Bobby Thomson, Alex Konikowski.

Bottom row from left to right: Hank Thompson, Alvin Dark, Willie Mays, Coach Herman Franks, Manager Leo Durocher, Coach Freddie Fitzsimmons, Hank Schenz, Bill Rigney, Eddie Stanky, Trainer Frank Bowman.

eated on the ground: Bat Boy Al Leonard.